IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 71, as follows:

8. (Previously Presented) A method of providing protection from reactive oxygen species, the method comprising the steps of:

preparing a breathable composition comprising oxygen intentionally supplemented with a fuel gas comprising at least one hydrocarbon fuel gas;

providing said breathable composition to an animal on land while the animal is surrounded by a gaseous environment; and

within said animal, scavenging said reactive oxygen species with said fuel gas.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8, said animal being a human.

10. (Original) The method of claim 8, further comprising providing the animal with the breathable composition continually for a period of time greater than one hour.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, further comprising providing the animal with the breathable composition continually for a period of time greater than one day.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11, further comprising providing the animal with the breathable composition continually for a period of time greater than one month.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, said fuel gas being selected from the group consisting of, methane, ethane, propane, acetylene, ethene, n-butane, isobutane, 1-butene, and a combination thereof.

Claim 14 (Canceled)

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, said breathable composition being an explosive composition.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15, further comprising explosion-proofing the environment where the breathable composition is being provided to prevent ignition of the breathable composition or exhaled gas.

17. (Original) The method of claim 8, the breathable composition being provided at or near atmospheric pressure.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17, the providing of the breathable composition being performed using an open circuit apparatus.

19. (Original) The method of claim 8, the providing of the breathable

composition being performed using a closed circuit apparatus.

20. (Original) The method of claim 8, the providing of the breathable composition being performed using a semi-closed circuit apparatus.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, further comprising the steps of:

filling a first chamber having an open bottom with the breathable composition, said first chamber being positioned in a second chamber, said breathable composition being lighter than an ambient air so that said breathable composition is held in said first chamber; and

positioning the animal in the first chamber with the open bottom so that the animal breathes the breathable composition.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, further comprising:

explosion-proofing the environment in the first and second chambers.

Claim 23 (Canceled)

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, further comprising:

scrubbing an exhaled gas of the first chamber to remove carbon dioxide.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, said breathable composition comprising at least 66% hydrogen by volume.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, said breathable composition comprising hydrogen and acetylene.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, the breathable composition in the first chamber having a density less than about 75% of the ambient air.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, the step of providing further comprising the steps of:

positioning the animal in a building with a ventilation system; and

supplying said fuel gas into the ventilation system to provide the breathable composition inside the building.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein the step of providing said breathable composition simultaneously with the step of preparing said breathable composition by supplying said fuel gas is supplied to a respiratory tract of the animal and said oxygen is supplied from ambient air so that, upon inhalation of the fuel gas and the ambient air, said breathable composition is prepared and provided to the

animal.

Claim 30 (Canceled)

31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, further comprised of supplying the breathable composition to the animal via an oral-nasal mask or a helmet.

32. (Previously presented) The method of claim 29, further comprised of maintaining a selected concentration of the fuel gas in the breathable composition by regulating a rate of supply of said fuel gas to the respiratory tract.

Claim 33 (Canceled)

Claim 34 (Canceled)

Claim 35 (Canceled)

Claim 36 (Canceled)

Claim 37 (Canceled)

Claim 38 (Canceled)

Claim 39 (Canceled)

Claim 40 (Canceled)

Claim 41 (Canceled)

Claim 42 (Canceled)

43. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, further comprised of said breathable composition being an explosive composition.

44. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 43, with said breathable composition consisting essentially of hydrogen, acetylene and oxygen.

45. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 43, with said breathable composition consisting essentially of hydrogen and oxygen.

46. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 43, with said breathable composition having a density less than 75% that of air.

47. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 43, with said first chamber further comprising a flexible skirt suspended from a lip defined by the open bottom of the first chamber.

48. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 43, wherein said first chamber is further comprised of an overflow pipe extending from an entry opening above the open bottom of the first chamber through the top of the first chamber, and said second chamber is further comprised of a check valve at the top of the overflow pipe, said check valve is located in a region providing ventilation.

49. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 48, further comprising:

positioning an inlet muffler inside the first chamber below the approximate height of a mouth of the animal in the first chamber;

purifying the breathable composition drawn by the inlet muffler by locating a life support system outside the first chamber and connecting the life support system to said inlet muffler; and

purifying breathable composition to supplied to the first chamber by installing a muffler diffuser pipe inside the first chamber and connecting the pipe to the life support system.

50. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 49, said life support system further comprising:

a CO_2 scrubber;

a temperature and humidity control;

an oxygen supply supplementing oxygen;

a secondary loop scrubbing nitrogen, argon, oils and other contaminants; and

an alarm system alerting when there is a failure in the system.

Claim 51 (Canceled)

Claim 52 (Canceled)

53. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 43, further comprising:

an antistatic mat on a floor under the first chamber.

Claim 54 (Canceled)

Claim 55 (Canceled)

Claim 56 (Canceled)

Claim 57 (Canceled)

58. (Original) The method of claim 10, further comprising providing the animal with the breathable composition continually for a period of time greater than 4 hours.

59. (Original) The method of claim 10, further comprising providing the animal with the breathable composition for a cumulative time of greater than 15 hours in one day.

60. (Original) The method of claim 10, further comprising providing the animal with the breathable composition for an average of greater than 12 hours a day over 30 consecutive days.

61. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, further comprising the step of providing the breathable composition under a hyperbaric condition.

62. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, with said fuel gas being acetylene.

63. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, preparing said breathable

composition by delivering ambient air together with said fuel gas.

Claim 64 (Canceled)

65. (Previously Presented) A method of providing protection from reactive oxygen species, the method comprising the steps of:

preparing a breathable composition comprising oxygen intentionally supplemented with acetylene;

providing an animal on land while surrounded by a gaseous environment with said breathable composition; and

within said animal, scavenging said reactive oxygen species with said acetylene.

66. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 65, with said oxygen being supplied from an ambient air.

67. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 65, with said breathable composition further intentionally supplemented with a fuel gas.

68. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 67, said fuel gas being selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, methane, ethane, and propane.

Claim 69 (Canceled)

70. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, further comprising the step of providing the breathable composition under a hypobaric condition.

71. (Currently amended) A method of providing protection from reactive oxygen species, the method comprising the steps of:

preparing a breathable composition consisting essentially of ambient air intentionally supplemented with ~~hydrogen gas~~ hydrocarbon fuel gas;

providing said breathable composition to an animal on land; and

within said animal, scavenging said reactive oxygen species with said hydrogen gas.